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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/044,349	01/11/2002	Toshiaki Mori	967_024	8193

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EXAMINER	
VENT, JAMIE J	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2621	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/12/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/044,349	MORI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jamie Vent	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11 January 2002*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *6/02; 5/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,2,4,6,7,9,11,12,13,14,17,18, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Yamagihara et al (US 6,173,114).

[claim 1]

In regard to Claim 1, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system comprising a disc drive for reading a coded signal recorded on a disc type recording medium, and transmitting the coded signal through a synchronous channel of a digital bus, and plural display units each receiving the coded signal from the digital bus, and decoding and displaying the coded signal, wherein:

- each of the plural display units outputs disc control information including a read command for controlling the disc drive so as to read the coded signal from the disc type recording medium (Figure 1 shows a plural of display units and further discloses Column 2 Lines 14-29);
- and one of the plural display units receives the disc control information from the other display units, and the display unit receives, at least as for the read command, the read commands from all of the other display units which are operating and, thereafter, outputs one read command to the disc drive (Column 4 Lines 20-46 describes the read commands that are sent throughout the system).

[claims 2 & 7]

In regard to Claims 2 and 7, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system of claim 1, wherein the disc type recording medium is a DVD (Figure 3).

[claim 4]

In regard to Claim 4, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system comprising a disc drive for reading a coded signal recorded on a disc type recording medium, and transmitting the coded signal through a synchronous channel of a digital bus, and plural display units each receiving the coded signal from the digital bus, and decoding and displaying the coded signal, wherein:

- each of the plural display units performs operation on the basis of a periodic signal whose temporal relationship with data on the synchronous channel is constant (Column 2 Lines 62-67 describes the plurality of devices used to communicate);
- one of the plural display units generates decoder control information including at least a playback command, outputs the decoder control information to the other display units (Column 3 Lines 7-26 describes the decoding information as further seen in Figure 4);
- executes decoder control at a timing when a predetermined time t (t: positive real number) has passed from the n-th periodic signal (n: natural number) after the display unit outputted the decoder control information; and each of the other display units receives the decoder control information, and executes decoder control at a timing when the predetermined time t has passed from the n-th periodic signal after the display unit received the decoder control information (Figure 4 and 6 shows the decoding of the control information as further described in Column 3 Lines 7-26 and Column 4 Lines 5-59).

[claim 6]

In regard to Claim 6, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system of claim 4, wherein a signal indicating a frame period of the digital bus is used as the periodic signal (Column 2 Lines 62-67 describes the frame period of the digital bus).

[claim 9]

In regard to Claim 9, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system comprising a disc drive for reading a coded signal recorded on a DVD, and transmitting the coded signal through a synchronous channel of a digital bus, and plural display units for receiving the coded signal from the digital bus, and decoding and displaying the coded signal, wherein: each of the plural display units generates an operation clock of 27 MHz from a transmission path clock of the digital bus, and performs decoding operation on the basis of the operation clock (Column 3 Lines 60+ through Column 4 Lines 1-4 describes the decoding of the displayed codes and further describes the operation clock in Column 5 Lines 35-49).

[claim 11]

In regard to Claim 11, Yanagihara et al discloses a display unit for receiving a coded signal which is read from a disc type recording medium by a disc drive, and decoding and displaying the coded signal, including:

- a disc control information output means for outputting disc control information including a read command for controlling the disc drive so as to read the coded signal from, the disc type recording medium (Figure 1 and described in Column 2 Lines 14-49 discusses the control information for controlling the disc drive);
- wherein the disc control information output means receives disc control information including the read command from other display units connected to the digital bus, and it receives, at least as for the read command, the read commands from all of the other display units connected to the digital bus and, thereafter, outputs one read command to the disc drive (Figure 1 and described in Column 2 Lines 14-49 describes the control information for the system).

[claims 12, 13, 17, 18, & 22]

In regard to Claims 12, 13, 17, 18, and 22, Yanagihara et al discloses a display unit for receiving a coded signal which is read from a disc type recording medium by a disc drive and transmitted through a synchronous channel of a digital bus, and decoding and

displaying the coded signal, the display unit performing operation on the basis of a periodic signal whose temporal relationship with data on the synchronous channel is constant and the display unit comprising:

- a decoder control information generation means for generating decoder control information including at least a playback command (Figure 6 and described in Column 4 Lines 5-59);
- a decoder control information output means for outputting the decoder control information generated by the decoder control information generating means to another display unit connected to the digital bus (Figure 6 and described in Column4 Lines 5-59 and Column5 Lines 28-49);
- and a decoder control means for executing decoder control, employing the decoder control information generated by the decoder control generation means, at a timing when a predetermined time t (t: positive real number) has passed from the n-th periodic signal (n: natural number) after the decoder control information output means outputted the decoder control information to the other display unit (Figure 4 and 6 and further described in Column 3 Lines 7-26 and Column 4 Lines 5-59).

[claim 14]

In regard to Claim 14, Yanagihara et al discloses a display unit for receiving a coded signal from a digital bus, and decoding and displaying the coded signal, including: a decoding clock generation means for generating a decoding clock of 27 MHz for performing decoding operation, from a transmission path clock of the digital bus (Column 3 Lines 60 through Column 4 Lines 4 and further described in Column 5 Lines 28-49).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 15, 16, 19, and 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yanagihara et al (US 6,173,114) in view of Saito et al (US 6,523,696).

[claims 15, 16, 19, & 20]

In regard to Claims 15, 16, 19, and 20, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system comprising a disc drive for reading and outputting a coded signal recorded on a disc type recording medium, and plural display units for decoding and displaying the coded signal outputted from the disc drive; however, fails to disclose

- a parameter control means performing a control such that a display unit which is performing display operation holds parameters used for the display operation and, when another display unit has started up, the display unit performing display operation transmits the parameters to the other display unit which has started up.

Saito et al discloses a system that allows for parameters for various system as seen in Figure 5 and further described in Column 15 Lines 18+ describes controls for each display unit. Saito et al teaches Yanagihara et al to use of storing parameters for various systems to allow for interchanging of systems while still keeping user parameters. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to use the disk playback system, as disclosed by Yanagihara et al, and further disclose a system wherein parameters are stored for controlling various devices, as further disclose Saito et al.

Claims 3, 5,8, and 10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yanagihara et al (US 6,173,114) in view of Pala et al (US 6,304,173).

[claims 3, 8, & 10]

In regard to Claims 3, 8, and 10, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system of claim 1; however, fails to disclose the digital bus is a vehicle-mounted digital bus to be mounted on motor vehicles. Pala discloses a system wherein entertainment system is implemented into an automobile wherein a digital bus is used to connect the various systems as seen in Figure 1 and 2. Pala teaches Yanagihara the ability to integrate a DVD system into an automobile to allow for further portable entertainment features. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the disk playback system, as disclosed by Yanagihara et al, and further incorporate a system that allows for a dvd viewing system in an automobile.

[claim 5]

In regard to Claim 5, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system of claim 4; however, fails to disclose that the decoder control information includes a pause command. Pala discloses the system provides a pause command depending on situations that occurs in the system as described in Column 5 Lines 1-22. Pala teaches Yanaghara's DVD system to provide a pause command dependent on system inputs. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the disk playback system, as disclosed by Yanagihara and further incorporate a system that uses a pause command for incoming system inputs, as disclosed by Pala.

Claims 21 and 23 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yanagihara et al (US 6,173,114) in view of Saito et al (US 6,523,696) in further view of Pala et al (US 6,304,173)..

In regard to Claims 21 and 23, Yanagihara et al discloses a disc playback system of claim 1; however, fails to disclose the digital bus is a vehicle-mounted digital bus to be mounted on motor vehicles. Pala discloses a system wherein entertainment system is implemented into an automobile wherein a digital bus is used to connect the various systems as seen in Figure 1 and 2. Pala teaches Yanagihara the ability to integrate a DVD system into an automobile to allow for further portable entertainment features. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the disk

playback system, as disclosed by Yanagihara et al, and further incorporate a system that allows for a dvd viewing system in an automobile.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Mattoli (US 6,286,009);
- Akiyama (US 6,694,235).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jamie Vent whose telephone number is 571-272-7384. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JJV

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